

**National Organization for Women,
West Suburban Chapter Records
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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

University of Illinois at Chicago, Special Collections and
University Archives at the Library of the Health Sciences
November 22, 2013

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Illinois at Chicago, Special Collections and University Archives at the Library of the Health Sciences
Title	National Organization for Women, West Suburban Chapter Records
Date [inclusive]	1970-2006
Extent	3.5 Linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	The National Organization for Women, West Suburban Chapter Records document the administrative and programmatic history of the organization. Records reflect West Suburban chapter, Illinois regional branch, and the national level organizational structure and administrative functions. The collection is divided into seven series, "Presidential Records," "Administrative Files," "Publications," "Press," "Political Action," "Campaigns," and "Illinois NOW."

Historical Note

The National Organization of Women (NOW) was founded in 1966 by a group of women attending the Third National Conference of the Commission on the Status of Women; which was centered on Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. The women, Betty Friedan, Pauli Murray, Gene Boyer, Kathryn Clarenbach, Mary Eastwood, Dorothy Haener, Anna Roosevelt Halsted, Esther Johnson, Inka O'Hanrahan, and Caroline Ware, were acutely interested in ensuring that Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), was proactively followed. Determined to see that the theme of the Conference was put in to practice, Betty Friedan and the other participants discussed other avenues to bring about equality for women. It was through these discussions that the National Organization for Women was founded with the committed to "take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American Society now, exercising all privileges and responsibilities thereof in truly equal partnership with men."

Scope and Contents note

The National Organization for Women, West Suburban (Chicago) Chapter Records documents the administrative and programmatic history of the organization. Records reflect West Suburban chapter, Illinois regional branch, and the national level organizational structure and administrative functions. The collection is divided into seven series:

Series I. Presidential Records Series II. Administrative Files Series III. Publications Series IV. Press Series V. Political Action Series VI. Campaigns Series VII. Illinois NOW

Administrative Information

Publication Information

University of Illinois at Chicago, Special Collections and University Archives at the Library of the Health Sciences November 22, 2013

Processing Information note

Processed by CLIR funded Black Metropolis Research Consortium "Color Curtain Processing Project," by Ben Peterson and Mooni Abdus-Salam. November 22, 2013.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

National Organization for Women, Chicago Chapter Records. University of Illinois at Chicago, Special Collections and University Archives at the Library of the Health Sciences

Controlled Access Headings

Subject(s)

- Abortion
- Economic equality
- Equal Rights Amendment
- Lesbian rights
- National Organization for Women, West Suburban (Chicago) Chapter
- Reproductive Rights
- Sex discrimination
- Sex-segregated advertising
- Violence against women

Series I. Presidential Records,

Collection Inventory**Series I. Presidential Records, 1986****Scope and Contents note**

The Presidential Records consist of one folder and includes news clippings and other publications that make mention of the organization, press releases, Board of Directors meeting minutes and reports, memorandum and flyers for events collected by President Jean Peterman.

	Box	Folder
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Presidential Records, 1986	1	1
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Series II. Administrative Files, 1981-1985**Scope and Contents note**

Administrative Files include correspondence, meeting agendas and minutes, memorandum and correspondence, as well as documentation reflecting events and programs sponsored or co-sponsored by the West Suburban chapter.

	Box	Folder
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Administrative Files, 1981-1985	1	[1-2] - [1-7]
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Series III. Publications, 1981-1999**Scope and Contents note**

Series IV. Press,

Publications includes drafts and print runs of the West Suburban NOW publication, News Now.

	Box	Folder
Publications, 1981-1999	1-3	[1-8] - [3-5]

Series IV. Press, 1986-1992**Scope and Contents note**

This series is comprised of press clippings that are related to women's issues in the Chicago suburbs and reflects the participation and action of the West Suburban NOW chapter.

	Box	Folder
Press 1986-1992	3	[3-6] - [3-8]

Series V. Political Action, 1982-1984**Scope and Contents note**

It reflects the political role the of the Chapter in local, state and national level elections.

	Box	Folder
Political Action, 1982-1984	3	[3-9] - [3-11]

Series VI. Campaigns, 1970-2006**Scope and Contents note**

Series VII. Illinois NOW,

Campaigns include press releases, clippings, memorandum, correspondence, meeting minutes and memos, and publications related to women's issues. Files may also include some Task Force and National NOW leadership material when related to a specific cause or event.

	Box	Folder
ERA, 1972-1982	3-5	[3-12] - [5-3]
Reproductive Rights, 1981-1992	5	[5-4] - [5-7]
Violence Against Women, 1974-1995	5	[5-8]- [5-11]
Voting Rights, 1984	6	[6-1]
Nestle Boycott, 1981-1982	6	[6-2]-[6-3]
Women's Issues, 1970-1997	6-7	[6-4]-[7-4]
Peace, 2004-2006	7	[7-5]

Series VII. Illinois NOW, 1980-1981**Scope and Contents note**

Includes documents related to the West Suburban involvement in the ERA campaign at the State level.

	Box	Folder
Illinois NOW, 1980-1981	7	[7-6]